



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
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SATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 20.

We hope the recent "mulling" response Gen. Sherman made to a polite and complimentary invitation to attend a reunion of the federal and Confederate soldiers in North Carolina may be the means of putting a stop to any further reunion of any sort of soldiers, at least in the South. If the North chooses to keep alive war memories, and thinks that by such a course it is promoting the growth of that homogeneity of feeling among all classes and portions of the country's population so conducive to the general welfare, it has the undoubted right to do so, and remonstrances from this section would only make it the more determined. Some sensible men of the North, Senator Sumner, for instance, have entertained different views, and, like the old Romans, have wished to obliterate all memories of the civil war, as such memories from their very nature, must tend to retard the advance of patriotism among the vanquished, but more modern northern leaders, who have a higher opinion of their own abilities than Senator Sumner had of his, scout such ideas, and they must have their way. As the South, however, is a part and parcel of the Union, let it depart toward promoting the Union's prosperity, and, to a means to that end, do all in its power to cut out the remembrances of the war. Let memorial services, therefore, and the erection of war monuments, and the holding of Confederate reunions be stopped, and, above all, let no more mixed reunions, such as gave General Sherman an opportunity to gratuitously insult the South, and the radicals also to irritate it still further by their comments upon and approval of that insult, be held south of the Potomac.

The radical press and radical speakers are still harping on the verdict of the jury that acquitted the man in Peabody, Mississippi, charged with the murder of Charlott, but why should that verdict be surprising, when so eminent a jury as the select commission, composed as it was of judges of the Supreme Court, of Senators and of distinguished members of the House of Representatives, rendered one so contrary to evidence and justice as to remove the last remnant of respect entertained in this country for the judicial and legislative branches of the government—that for the executive had vanished long before—and to make trial by jury not only a delusion and snare, but a sham and reproach?

#### Language and Ideas.

The lecture delivered by Mr. M. A. Clancy on Friday evening in Peabody Hall, on the "Relation Between Language and Ideas," a condensed sketch of which only our space enables us to present, opens up an entirely new field in the study of language. As heretofore understood and pursued as a study, language consists of a body of words already formed, of the origin of which we have little knowledge, and the original meanings of which we have even less. By the rules governing in civilized languages it is hereby to middle with these words, even in putting them into a phonetic dress for greater ease in learning their pronunciation. Dictionaries, swollen to unmanageable size, must be the constant companion of every one who would write and speak languages correctly. According to the historical canon, and grammars, of whose rules too many of us carry through life a terrible memory, only tend to make the task of learning language still greater.

By the discovery embodied in this lecture, however,—for we must characterize it as a discovery, and not a mere contrivance,—language is placed upon an entirely new ground; one, namely, where it may be studied as to its elemental structure. Instead of being a dry collection of fossilized words, the meaning of which must be laboriously and often tediously learned as a separate act of memory for each one, language becomes instinct with meaning and life in the fact that each simple element represents an ideal element and possesses a power of expression of its own; and the words, therefore, formed from these elements become exactly and adequately expressive of the ideas intended to be conveyed.

We are aware that attempts have been made to construct a philosophical language, but they were more in the nature of contrivance than otherwise, and hence were lacking in the vital element of exact relationship between sound and sense. Philologists are skeptical as to the possibility of such an achievement, and Prof. Whitney, the most eminent philologist, has distinctly placed himself on record in antagonism to the idea. Nevertheless, with the evidence afforded in this lecture of the identity of idea embodied in many of our present words having entirely different linguistic structure, and the pointing out the means of representing this identity of idea in identical word structure, no one can doubt that a new method and new subject matter are discovered, which must place language alongside of mathematics and music as a subject of scientific study. Under the guidance of such a principle, instead of being compelled to resort to lexicons and dictionaries to ascertain what words approach nearest the expression of his ideas, the student will be able, after learning the meaning contained in the simple sounds and the mode of their combination, to construct words and libram without any lexical aid whatever, which words shall be exactly expressive of his meaning.

The value of such a desideratum we need not enlarge upon.

**THE CAPTURE OF CETYWAYO.**—The details of the capture of King Cetywayo show that while the King was being watched on the one side by Lord Gifford and some scouts, Major Marter, with a detachment of the first dragoons, approached him from the other. Lord Gifford, whose presence was unknown to the King, intended to effect the attack until nightfall, so as to prevent the King from escaping into the dense bush. Cetywayo had caught a glimpse of the dragoons, but he thought that, in consequence of the bad condition of the ground, they could not approach quietly. Major Marter, however, directed the removal of all noisy accoutrements, and sent a native contingent on ahead. These surrounded the kral when the King had taken refuge, and Major Marter rode up and called to Cetywayo to come out of the hut. The King, after some parley, complied. He preserved a dignified demeanor, and asked to be shot.

#### FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Correspondence of the *Alex. Gazette*.  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 20, 1879.

The Senatorial committee to investigate the charges of bribery and corruption against Senator Leggett of Kansas, will commence its work next week, probably in Topeka, but as the agent of the Associated Press in that city is a radical and gives a radical twist to all the political matters that he sends, an effort will be made to induce the committee to prosecute its enquiries at Lawrence. It was supposed by many of the democratic Senators previous to the adjournment of the last session that the charges against Mr. Leggett could not be sustained, but the proof has been so strengthened since then that a report recommending its expulsion would not be surprising.

Judge J. W. Ashley, formerly of Lary, but now a practicing attorney in this city, and one of the counsel in the Lary case, has received a dispatch this morning stating that Judge Byrd of the 18th judicial circuit of Virginia had rendered a decision confirming the title of Campbell and Sabbies to the Lary Cave property in Pego county, Va.

A letter received here from Barksdale, who killed Dixon in Yazoo, Mississippi, states that he shot and killed Dixon because he had slandered and abused both his sister and his mother, and that politics had nothing to do with the affair, and that had Dixon received he would have shot him again at the first opportunity, and would have pursued him to the ends of the world to have killed him, as the earth is not large enough for him and the man who had falsely, basely and maliciously attempted to vilify his mother and injure the fair name of his sister.

It was stated in this correspondence yesterday that the speeches Mr. Hayes is now making in the West were prepared for him and received the approval of the Cabinet before he left with them. It has since been ascertained that they were prepared by Mr. Sherman for his own use, but that when the programme for his campaign was interrupted, he turned them over to his Chief, who is now receding them to admiring audiences.

There was a meeting of the joint executive committee of the democratic party in this city last Thursday, as announced in this correspondence of that day. In order that the readers of the Gazette may understand its character they are informed that there is a national democratic committee, consisting of 35 members—one from each State, and there is a congressional committee, consisting of 21 members, composed of prominent men in and out of Congress. Of these two committees 10 members of the first and 7 members of the latter constitute the joint executive committee that met here last week, which manages all affairs connected with the party. The officers are Hon. W. H. Burton of Connecticut, chairman; Gen. D. S. Walker of this city, secretary, and J. G. Thompson, ex-Ohio, treasurer. The meeting on Thursday was the first meeting of the committee since last March, and was called by the secretary to dispose of routine business that had accumulated since that date, and also with a special reference to the Ohio campaign. Mr. McKee, chairman of the executive committee, was invited to attend the meeting, and was present and last before the committee the exact condition of the canvass in that State, and expressed his conviction that the democratic State ticket would be elected, and also the Legislature, and denounced in sound terms the reports originating from radical sources that there was either jealousy or dissension in that State. This is an official report of the meeting as authorized by the committee.

The National bank notes sent to the Treasury for redemption to-day amounted to \$165,000; for the week, \$1,078,000; for the corresponding week last year, \$2,107,000.

The following is the statement of the securities of the National banks at this date: U. S. Bonds for circulation, \$357,044; U. S. Bonds deposited for circulation, \$1,744,300; U. S. Bonds held for circulation, withdrawn, \$816,800. The National Board of Health's intelligence from Memphis since yesterday's report is to the effect that there have been eleven new cases, one of which are white, and five deaths, two of which are new cases, and only one death, but at New York City there have been seven new cases and one death.

The receipts at the Treasury to-day from internal revenue amounted to \$380,396; from customs \$459,305.

Mr. Page McCarty's new comic opera of *Batons* will probably be produced in Philadelphia next week.

Mr. P. Lorrillard's bay colt *Ureka* and Duke of Mexico were shipped from Liverpool for New York to-day.

The Russian authorities have begun the work of unloading the Black and Caspian seas by connecting various rivers.

France agrees to the plan that the Turkish debt should be settled by the application of the customs receipts to that purpose.

Cardinal Lechowski has been heavily fined for exceeding his prerogative as priest who had obeyed the Prussian laws.

The Marquis of Hartington, Liberal leader in Parliament, spoke yesterday at Bournemouth in favor of land reform, and denouncing the imperial policy of the Tory administration. Lord Derby favors emigration and is likely to be useful in lessening the evil of pauperism.

In view of the fact that "a few misguided persons have again caused a disturbance of peace in the province of Santiago de Cuba," the Captain General of Cuba has declared that province in a state of war. Another decree is published which directs that \$50,000 be appropriated for the relief of the province of Pinar del Rio and \$100,000 for that of Santiago de Cuba.

Twelve cases in all were reported at Memphis yesterday, two white and two colored. There were seven deaths, three colored. Four new cases and one death are reported at Concordia, Miss. The attorney general of Tennessee has given his opinion sustaining the action of the State Board of Health in enacting a rule that "no further red cotton will be allowed to enter Memphis during the epidemic."

Three new cases are reported to-day. The Board of Health says it is not safe for refugees to return to the city yet, though the cases of fever is on the decrease.

Great excitement has been caused at L. b. anoe, New Hampshire, by the arrival of a man from Cuba with the fever.

**The Afghan Revolt.**  
LONDON, Sept. 20.—The India office confirms the report of the outbreak at Herat on the 5th inst. Special dispatches state that the troops of the garrison plundered and burned the Goolmoh's House and murdered the commanding general, who was a friend and supporter of the Amir. The affair throws suspicion upon the loyalty of Aliqub Khan, a brother of the Amir.

A special from Lahore to the *Daily News* says: "The Afghans are capturing Gandomuk near the Daks. The Kabul rebels are levying forced loans on the merchants. Much apprehension is felt about the safety of the British residency at Mandialy, Barmah."

**Failure, &c.**  
NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—It is reported that S. W. Rosenfelds, a large German house on the board side of the market, has failed. The firm was short of wheat largely in Europe. The loss here is very slight, as the contracts were protected by marries.

Governor Robinson has made a call for an extraordinary session of the Supreme Court general term.

#### NEWS OF THE DAY.

The Marquis of Lorne formally opened the Credit Valley railway, Canada, yesterday.

Cornelius Walsh, a leading Methodist and a candidate for Governor of New Jersey against Joel Parker in 1871, died in Newark this morning.

Governor McClellan, of New Jersey, who has been suffering from acute inflammation of the kidneys for the past week is much improved in health.

Presidents Hayes attended a reception of the merchants and manufacturers at Detroit yesterday, and made some remarks on the currency and trade question.

James Jenkins, of Milwaukee, was nominated yesterday by the Wisconsin democratic State central committee for Governor, in place of Alexander Mitchell, who had declined the nomination. Mr. Jenkins has accepted.

Louis Guetzi, a boy not 20 years of age, was executed at Indianapolis yesterday for the murder of Mary McGlen, a year ago, because she refused to renew a marriage engagement with him.

Mr. Tilden has said to Hon. Richard Merrick that he proposes to crush out Tammany, and that he hopes for Ewing's success in Ohio as preliminaries to democratic success in the national campaign.

Several days ago Col. Morrow, commanding the 10th Maine, had a five hours fight near Hillsburg with the Indians, 100 in number, and taking a loss of 10 killed and several wounded, and the loss of all the stock.

Kansas is getting tired of the negro and Gov. St. John and others are in consultation at Topeka regarding the matter. It is considered by them best to hereafter direct the course of colored immigrants to older Western States.

In Taney county, Mo., on Tuesday last, two brothers named Burr, and James Manns got into a quarrel about a cow, and James shot and killed Burr. A younger brother then went home, procured a rifle, and shot James through the heart.

General Thomas W. Cowan in an interview with a Kansas City Journal reporter a few days ago said that he has information from trustworthy sources that next year 100,000 negroes, if not more, will emigrate from the South to the North and West.

At the Colorado republican convention yesterday a resolution was passed pledging Colorado for Grant in case he should become a candidate for the Presidency. Secretary Schurz made a brief speech eulogistic of the republican party. The platform adopted by the convention calls for an unlimited coinage of silver.

Kansas has repudiated \$5,547,000, and sixteen different counties and nine cities refuse to pay interest on their debts, which aggregates \$3,547,000. Seventeen counties and five cities and towns in Illinois have refused and still refuse to pay interest on their debt, aggregating \$5,517,000.

Francesco Porcillo, the Italian who murdered Michael Ballou, by slaying him in the heart of the public street of New York, on the 26th of last July, was yesterday sentenced. The prisoner pleaded that at the time of the murder he was suffering from an acute mania supported by various causes.

James Adger & Co., a long established banking house of Charleston, S. C., have failed, with heavy liabilities. J. M. Adger & Co., wholesale hardware dealers, also suspended. They are involved as endorsers on the paper of James Adger & Co. It is doubtful whether either house will resume. George H. Walter & Co., cotton factors, Charleston, suspended Thursday, and their failure precipitated that of James Adger & Co.

Last Tuesday it was stated that on account of the large accumulation of gold coin in the treasury, arrangements were being made whereby gold and silver coin might be exchanged for United States notes at the several sub-treasuries. Since that announcement it has been discovered that existing laws prohibit the exchange of coin for legal tender notes at any sub-treasury other than at New York. The order therefore has been prepared so as to conform with the provision contained in the Resumption act.

**VIRGINIA NEWS.**  
A steam tannery, on an extensive scale, has been started at Winchester.

Mr. R. A. Brock, of Richmond, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society of Great Britain.

Hon. John L. May Jr. has been appointed superintendent of public schools of Spotsylvania county and the city of Fredericksburg.

Gen. John E. Roller, debt payer, has announced himself as a candidate for the Virginia State Senate in the Rockingham district.

Mr. John Armstrong, of Rockbridge Co., aged 76, was drowned by falling from an excursion steamer on the Ohio river, below Huntington a few days ago.

The case involving the title to the Lury ex-curve was decided yesterday at New Market in favor of the present owners, the Campbells, and Stebbins's petition to set aside the sale was dismissed.

The kitchen, stable, and corral of Charles Anderson, near Providence Church, Norfolk Co., caught on fire yesterday by sparks from a chimney, and the buildings and contents were entirely destroyed.

Miss Kitty Shacklett died of paralysis at her residence near Delaplane, in Fauquier county, on the 20th of last August, in the 87th year of her age. Her husband was for many years the favorite inn for travelers en route to Capon Springs.

On Wednesday next the convention will be held at Berryville, to nominate a Senator for the district composed of Frederick, Clarke and Warren counties. Judge J. T. Lovell and Captain Alex. M. Earl will be before the convention.

The British steamship *Amurzaese*, from Liverpool, and the sailing ship *Bembay*, of Bath, Me., arrived at Norfolk yesterday to load with cotton for Europe. The captain of the *Amurzaese* was fined five hundred dollars for Collector Bowen, for failing to have a manifest as required by law.

The thoroughbred mare Nica, belonging to Mr. Dowell, died yesterday, in her 32d year. Her reputation as a racer and brood mare was co-extensive with the Union. Nica was the last survivor of the progeny of the celebrated Boston, and was the dam of Planet, Exchequer, Nettle, Orion, Orleans, Bolus, Algerine, Midday, and several others noted on the turf of this country.

At Front Royal, Warren Co., yesterday, testimony in the case of Jonas Heckman, charged with the murder of Jas. Foster, was closed, and the opening argument was made by H. H. Downing, attorney for the State. He was followed by Giles Cook, jr., of Front Royal; J. Y. Menefee, of Rappahannock county, and Gen. J. H. Williams, of Winchester. The argument was concluded and the case given to the jury to-day.

The senatorial convention for the district, composed of the counties of Orange, Madison, Culpeper and Rappahannock, met at Culpeper C. H. on Thursday, but adjourned until Friday next in consequence of the absence of some eight or nine delegates from the county of Orange. The Times says: "The whole proceedings indicated to our mind a desire on the part of some to break up the convention without making a nomination, or to 'bolt' if a nomination was made. Col. Jas. Strother and Maj. Grimsley, both of Culpeper, are the aspirants for this office, and there will be the names before the convention when it again assembles."

The Countess of Rosebery has given birth to a daughter.

#### Old Families.

[Written for the *Alexandria Gazette*.]  
"The Henderson house is still standing at Dumfries! Yes! But where are the Hendersons?"—*Letter of Victor in Alexandria Gazette* of 22d August, 1879.

Yes! and where are the Muschats? and the Brundidges? the Tobbs, the Spences, and the Blakes? the Broaughs, the Forbes and the Harrisons? the Dalrymples, the Kemps, and the Gramahs? and many others whom this writer, now in the seventy third year of his age, has heard of, may in childhood have seen, but cannot at this moment remember; men and women of high culture and brilliant accomplishments, at a period when those qualities were of difficult attainment, who in the richness of their attire, and the courtliness of their manners gave tone, and character, and fame to the forum and the ball room of Dumfries scarcely less than those of the vice royal court at Williamsburg. This writer has seen broadsword fights, a display of a lady of the old town, wrought in vines and flowers, and birds, and the high heeled shoe of corresponding colors, and embroidery with their points turned over in a rounded chold to the kisten like the old fashioned "high Dutch" skates, both of them illustrative of the beauty and richness of the dressing of that period. It may not be irrelevant in this connection to mention that a sister of this lady, Catharine Brant, of "Woodstock," near York, married a brother of the Duke of Douglass, of that day, with whom she returned to Scotland, where they occupied the beautiful residence of "Rose Hall," which, after her death, that of her son Archy, an officer in the British army, who either died or was killed in the East Indies (and whose heavy silver spurs were sent to this writer), and of her two daughters, one of whom was the wife of Gen. Pyle, of the British Army, leaped to the Ducal estate, that branch of the Douglass family becoming thus extinct.

But "where are" all these people? You may stand in the wreck of "The Henderson house," or on the *disinherited* sites of any of the old mansions for so long a period the homes of a hundred hospitality and bravery, and famous silver tankards, and in the question, and a hollow, but not meaningless, echo of it may be all the response you may receive, but go to the graveyards of the village, and you will find such record of them as the barbaric devility of the Goths and vandals that late but of late swept over them, may have left (and this writer has seen dispossessions in the shape of copper shields with epitaphs engraved thereon, dug, with their fastenings, out of tombs of the Bretons at New Jersey, that true State in the days of the revolution, to their descendant the late John Carroll Brent, of Washington.) But look abroad over the country and you will see in their descendants in every honorable and respectable avocation in life! Helping, pressing on the basis of the world with inherent Scotch tenacity and energy, for almost all of the men who settled Dumfries and built it up with courage and industry, and with the fabrics and the loomeries of all the outer world, and bore away its abundance (tobacco crops, wets Scotchmen, and the rest) for the firm of Morris (the great financier of the revolution) Nicholson in Philadelphia built three large warehouses to contain his purchases.

But "where are the Hendersons?" Let such inquirer look over the broad States two counties of Fauquier and Loudoun, he will find none of them, with many another descendant of Dumfries amidst their busy, moving throng. This writer has a pleasant recollection of an associate in the University of Virginia, a grandson of Dumfries, whose father he understood to be at that time an influential citizen, and prominent lawyer of Leesburg. But let him look in the records of the army and the navy, and the Marine Corps. In the first he will find Dr. Thomas Henderson a surgeon; in the second he will find the surgeon's two sons, Traxton and James, whilst two of his daughters are the wives of Gen. Smith, of the Virginia Military Institute, and of Col. Seth Eastman, U. S. A., and in the Marine Corps he will find Gen. Archy Henderson, who raised that corps from its slough of despond, and his son Charles Alexander Henderson.

"Where are" the Muschats? This writer would like to know, for as in after years the curtain of memory gradually rolled up, displaying to him things long concealed behind it, he came to him a vivid recollection that when a young boy, in 1812 or '13, at the residence of his maternal aunt, Mrs. Thomas Mason, widow of one of the sons of Col. Mason, of Gunston Hall, there came on foot to cross the ferry there, which was in the great, and at that time I believe only, high road of travel between the North and South, two young men of that family from Dumfries, on their way to Baltimore to hunt for fortune. There came back to his memory their fine personal appearance, their well dressed condition, and particularly their shining black walking canes with black silk chords and tassels hanging silver style. Did they find the "slidery Ba" of which they were in such resolute pursuit? or were they swept away in the epidemic of 1819. I think, which desolated that then young city!

Of the Blakes, don't John B. Blake, a grandson of Dumfries, still survive to gladden the hearts of his friends with his bonhomie and geniality whenever they visit him in his office as secretary of the National Washington Monument Society, to which he has long succeeded after the lamented death of his life long friend the late, the good, John Carroll Brock. His brother, Thomas Holmwood Blake, settled in Indiana, became a representative in the Congress of the United States, and Commissioner of the General Land Office. A younger brother, Joseph, was in the U. S. navy. Their sister married that most excellent gentleman, friend and contemporary in the U. S. Military Academy of this writer, the late Wm. A. Gordon of the Quartermaster General's Office, and is mother of the young Gordons of Georgetown.

Of the Macraes—More members of that family have probably remained in Virginia than of any other of the old families of Dumfries. This writer knows of but one absent one, Col. Nathaniel Chapman Macrae, a most kind and most loved friend and contemporary of this writer in the U. S. Military Academy, and now on the retired list of the U. S. A., and residing in Cincinnati, where he acquired property when commanding the post at New Port, Kentucky, many years ago.

Of the Gramahs—Merely Mr. Richard Gramah, who was a merchant in the town, and became a very large landed proprietor in Virginia, in Kentucky, and in Ohio, there were three brothers, Dr. Wm., Mr. Robert and Mr. Catesby Gramah. The wife of Dr. Gustavus Brown, of Porto Bisco, in Maryland, was their sister. Mr. Catesby died unmarried at a very advanced age. He went to Louisiana, of which State he made and published a large map. Mr. Robert's daughter, I think, married Dr. Broadbent, who was connected with the Mason and McCarty dual. Dr. Wm. was the father of four sons, all men of renown in the U. S. army, and a fifth resigned and died soon after graduating at the U. S. Military Academy. It was in reference to the *lead laden* gallantry of two of these officers, Wm. Montrose and Campbell Gramah, that General Worth made the complimentary reply to the oratorical officer who notified him, during his fight with Tustogogee's band in Florida, that the lead was giving out. "Well! I don't know what you'll do unless you melt the Gramahs in!" Wm. M. (known in the army as "Hotshot") was killed, leading his regiment in that terrible fight at Molino del Rey in

Mexico. James Dugan, one of the most scientific and distinguished engineers in the army, and Campbell, after making equally marked records as their elder brother, died natural deaths at advanced ages, the former leaving a son in the army and the navy, the latter children. The fifth one Gen. Lawrence Pike Gramah, on the retired list, still survives, having lost two sons in the service. A niece of theirs is Sister Bayista in the convent in Georgetown, and their only surviving sister resides in Richmond.

Richard Gramah was a merchant, a large proprietor in the town, and very extensive land holder, both in Virginia and "the western country," principally in Lewis county, Kentucky, where much of his time in his later years, was spent, with the two elder of his three sons in surveying and locating Virginia military land warrants, and establishing farms on the banks of the Ohio river, which had to be protected by "Block Houses" as they were called, and guarded with guns moved from stump to stump as they head their oars; gradually removing his slaves there from Virginia. But in a great measure ruined by the failure of Morris & Nicholson, he died during one of his expeditions, always made on horseback, to Philadelphia, in the fruitless effort to get a settlement with that House. His two elder sons were well educated men, in Columbia College, N. Y. Both, I think, read law, and the elder, George, entered into the practice of it in Dumfries, represented the county in the Legislature, and was a member of (but I think the Electoral College which cast the vote of Virginia for Mr. Madison. Marrying the widow of Mr. George Mason of "Lexington," eldest son of Col. Mason, of Gunston (who had married G. G.'s maternal aunt, Sarah Brent, for his second wife,) he removed to Fairfax and became a farmer on his wife's dower estate, raised and commanded the Fairfax Light Horse (in which Wm. H. Fitzhugh, of "Riverview" was a private, and was most of the young gentlemen of that day in the academy) in the war of 1812-'14. His wife dying in May, 1814, during the whole summer of which year he was in the entire command of his troop, he was, on the retirement of Gen. Armstrong from the War Department after the burning of the city, called by Col. Monroe, Secretary of State, and charged with the war office, to take charge of the latter department as its chief clerk, continuing to do so until the resignation of the last two years of Mr. Madison's administration, and until relieved by Mr. Calhoun as full Secretary, late in the first year of Col. Monroe's administration, which, in the summer of 1819, induced him to undertake an expedition into Texas to ascertain what Gen. LaLumonde, Napoleon's great General of Artillery, who mysteriously disappearing from his residence in New Jersey, had as mysteriously reappeared in command of 600 "armed Colonists," exiled officers and soldiers of Napoleon's army, at the Oregones Bluffs on the Trinity river, was after. The treaty with Spain, by which Florida was acquired by the U. S., was then under discussion in Washington by J. Q. Adams, Secretary of State, and Don Oais, the minister from Spain, and this movement of General LaLumonde's created some apprehension on the part of our Government that it was instigated by the Government of France, or Spain, or both, to in some way effect the negotiation of that treaty. It was at that time, an expedition of great personal danger, requiring courage, endurance, and address for its successful accomplishment. The turbulent element of the recently closed war had not yet subsided; the Mississippi Valley contained many lawless and desperate men preying on the flat boat commerce of that river, and its tributaries; the western flat boatmen were retreating in large bands, on foot, by land, from New Orleans, and were not usually a pleasant crowd to encounter; the greater portion of West Tennessee, and all North Mississippi was inhabited by Indians; the Valley of Red river, then pretty much a case brake country, was sparsely settled and containing many Indians, was to be crossed, and all Eastern Texas, if ever reached, was to be traversed. It was a most arduous and dangerous journey; it could then only be made on horseback, and would take all summer, but in a patriotic desire to serve the country and Col. Monroe's administration, of which he was an ardent and efficient supporter, Mr. Gramah consented to undertake it, and left Washington, by the western route, the first week in June 1818, attended by a negro servant, on horseback.

On reaching Natchez he met with a person removing to the Bayou Rapides in Louisiana. Availing himself of this pilotage, he reached that person's new settlement, 12 miles above the village of Alexandria on Red river, and leaving with him his servant and horses, took a bridge made through the canebrake to hunt for the Oregones Bluffs, which he found, and Gen. LaLumonde, who he learned, on reaching the Sabine river, had broken up his camp on the Oregones Bluffs, and moved down to Galvez Island. Turning his horse around, he struck the little *Cassarene* river, encountering a smuggling vessel, he caused it to take him around to Galvez Island, where he not only found LaLumonde, but *LaFite*, permanently established; remained there from 24th to 28th of August, during which time he induced them, each, to recognize and submit to the authority of the U. S., to that territory, and to consent to break up their establishments there, and leave it. He then retraced his weary route, reaching Washington in safety, with the same horses, unharmed, with which he had left it on the 6th of June.

He then became President of the Branch in Washington, of the U. S. Bank, which office he held until his appointment by President Monroe as Commissioner of the General Land Office in 1823, in which office he died in August, 1830, having during his presidency of the bank been also employed by the Government to wind up the old Indian factory affairs, in which he saved the Government two hundred and fifty odd thousand dollars.

Of his first marriage a daughter survives, widely known as Mary Bernard, of the Convent in Georgetown, and a son, who went to Rapides Parish, Louisiana, in 1828, where he accumulated a good estate, the whole of which was swept from under him by the war and its consequences, and where he now lives on a little piece of "bread cast upon the waters" many years ago, which, in curious fulfillment of one of the promises of the Bible, was "returned to" him just in time to save him from utter poverty and dependence.

Of his second marriage with a lady, whose grandfather, Josiah Watson, there may still be older citizens who knew him in Alexandria, as a merchant, and I think, postmaster, there survives him a daughter, widow of the late Capt. H. K. Davenport, U. S. N., of whose three sons, the eldest is in the navy, and the second in the army, and a son who is a retired officer of the marine corps. The eldest son, in Louisiana, has two sons and two daughters and four grandchildren, the elder being a cotton planter there, and the younger county judge at DeNotre, Colorado.

John Gramah, the second son of Richard, of Dumfries, represented Lewis county in the Kentucky Legislature; was sent by Mr. Jefferson, as Secretary of the Territory of Orleans, for the purpose of watching the movements of Aaron Burr, and as Secretary of Legation to Spain, but the chronological order of these events is not known to this writer. He was Chief Clerk of the State Department during the whole of the administration of that office by Mr. Madison, whose last act in retiring from it was to place on record in it a very beautiful tribute to Mr. Gramah's merits as a man and the value and worth of his services as an officer, in a paper recommending him to his successor in the Department for employment in a higher sphere of usefulness. He was one of the com-

missioners to the South American Republic, and under Col. Monroe's administration was sent as Minister, in the U. S. frigate Congress, to the Portuguese Court, then residing in Rio de Janeiro. But his health broke down under the climate of Brazil, and he reached Washington barely in time to die. Having married a maternal relative, Miss Hill, of Prince George's county, Md., who survived him many years, he left several children, of whom the eldest became a large tobacco planter, and married a daughter of Judge Gaston, of North Carolina, but died childless. His second son entered the navy, and died from the effects of a fall, which lodged in his spine, in a duel with another shipman. His third son, a graduate of West Point, died at Monterey, from a wound received in that battle, and both of his daughters dying in childhood, his branch of the family became extinct.

Richard, third son of Richard, of Dumfries, was but 12 years old at his father's death. After receiving such education as was practicable to be then had for him in the reduced circumstances of the family, principally at Georgetown College, he went into the counting house of Cumberland Wilson, in Alexandria, from which he was transferred by his elder brother to the superintendence of the property on the Ohio river. There he married, and had two sons, the elder of whom entered the navy and married the eldest daughter of Major Cary Seddon, with whom he was living on a farm, near St. Louis, when the war with Mexico arising, he set out for Washington to seek for military service, and died suddenly on the way. His only daughter is the wife of Judge John Wickham, of St. Louis, with a numerous family. The younger son died in early manhood. In the war of 1812-'14 Mr. Richard Gramah entered the army as a captain in the 19th infantry, was soon promoted to major of the 17th infantry, and was selected by Major Gen. Harrison as one of his aids. On the reduction of the army after the close of the war, he was appointed an Indian agent, and located in St. Louis, where he subsequently married a daughter of John Mulvaney, a wealthy Irishman, whose marriage he had twice won, and on which, which marriage he had two sons and one daughter, all of whom died in early maturity, except one, who became the wife of Capt. C. M. Frost, U. S. A., who subsequently became a Brigadier General U. S. A. Mrs. Frost left a numerous family. Her eldest son, A. G. Frost, represents one of the St. Louis Congressmen, and is one of the Congress of the U. S. Her eldest daughter is married in St. Louis, and the second is married in England. Thus the family name of that branch is also extinct.

Accidentally interrupted at that point in his narrative of the family of Mr. Richard Gramah, of Dumfries, the writer omitted to mention that he had one daughter, Catharine, who married Andrew Ramsey, who subsequently removed to Washington, and was connected with the departments. She was the mother of Captain Wm. Ramsey, U. S. Navy, and of Gen. George Douglas Ramsey, U. S. Army, now, at an advanced age, on the retired list. Both of these were born in Dumfries. General Ramsey was one of the brave men who fought at Bull Run, and was with children, a widowed daughter with a little girl, and two unmarried daughters.

Mrs. Ramsey had two daughters. The oldest, Catharine, the widow of Col. Wm. Mulvaney, U. S. A., of whom on hearing of the sudden death at Wilmington, N. C., General Seddon exclaimed in the bitterness of his grief, "I killed him! I worked him to death in Mexico!" She has four sons, one of them in the army, the others in business in civil life; last having a large family, one wife of a merchant, with numerous children. Mrs. Ramsey's second daughter married and lived in Philadelphia, where five sons, all in business in civil life, survive her.

The last son of the old families of Dumfries, the writer omitted to mention that he had one daughter, Catharine, who married Andrew Ramsey, who subsequently removed to Washington, and was connected with the departments. She was the mother of Captain Wm. Ramsey, U. S. Navy, and of Gen. George Douglas Ramsey, U. S. Army, now, at an advanced age, on the retired list. Both of these were born in Dumfries. General Ramsey was one of the brave men who fought at Bull Run, and was with children, a widowed daughter with a little girl, and two unmarried daughters.

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